

IN THE CLAIMS

1-6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) A system for forming a channel in a bone comprising:

a guide wire having a leading and trailing end;

a rotatable boring tool having a wall surrounding an axial bore for slidably receiving said guide wire, said tool having a first end including a cutting element and a drive end adapted to be connected to a power source for rotating said tool to bore into bone, said bore being adapted to permit said guide wire to slide axially through said bore when said tool is connected to said power source and while said tool is boring into bone, and said wall adjacent said drive end having an elongated opening therethrough in communication with said bore, said elongated opening being adapted to permit viewing of axial sliding movement of said guide wire trailing end during rotation of said boring tool while said tool is connected to said power source and said tool is boring into bone;

wherein the guide wire is extendable into the bone distally beyond the cutting element of the boring tool and up to the desired depth of the channel to be formed by the cutting element.

8. (original) The system as set forth in claim 7 wherein said opening is in the form of an elongated slot.

9. (currently amended) The system as set forth in claim 8 wherein ~~a pair of second elongated slots are~~ slot is located on an opposite side of said wall from said elongated slot.

10-18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) A boring tool for bone, comprising:
a shank having a rotatable cutting tool at a first distal

end thereof, the shank and cutting tool having a cannulation therethrough, the shank having a drive portion at a proximal end thereof, the shank having a radially outwardly extending slideable lock portion between the shank distal end and the drive portion, the lock portion being slideable distally and proximally along the shank, the distal end of the shank spaced distally of the lock portion and the drive portion spaced proximally of the lock portion, the shank having a pair of diametrically opposed windows therein; and

a guide wire slidably received within the cannulation in the shank and cutting tool and having a trailing end viewable through the windows in the shank, the guide wire being extendable into a bone distally beyond the cutting tool of the shank and up to a desired depth of a bore to be formed by the cutting tool.

20. (previously presented) The boring tool for bone as set forth in claim 19 wherein said pair of windows extends parallel to the cannulation in the shank.

21. (previously presented) The boring tool for bone as set forth in claim 19 wherein said diametrically opposed windows extend in parallel.

22. (previously presented) The system as set forth in claim 7 wherein the elongated opening has a first end and a second end, the first end being spaced from the drive end of the boring tool, and the second end of the opening being located closer to the cutting element than the first end of the opening.

23. (previously presented) The boring tool for bone as set forth in claim 19 wherein each one of the pair of diametrically opposed windows has a first end and a second end, the first end of each window being spaced from the drive

portion, and the second end of each window being located closer to the cutting tool than the first end of the respective window.

24. (new) The system as set forth in claim 7 wherein the guide wire is a Kirschner wire.

25. (new) The boring tool for bone as set forth in claim 19 wherein the guide wire is a Kirschner wire.